UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

BRENDA TRAN,

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Plaintiff,

NORTHROP GRUMMAN CORP, et al.,

Defendants.

Case No. 10cv2210-BTM (NLS)

ORDER RE MOTION TO AMEND COMPLAINT AND TO REMAND

Plaintiff moves, pursuant to Fed. R. Civ. P. 15, for leave to file a first amended complaint to remove a cause of action containing allegations under Title VII. Plaintiff also requests that the Court remand this action back to the Superior Court for the County of San Diego. Defendants did not file an opposition to this motion.

Plaintiff originally filed an action in state court, bringing claims for sexual harassment under the FEHA, sexual harassment under Title VII, termination in violation of public policy, and retaliation. Defendants removed pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1441(b) and (c), alleging that Plaintiff's Title VII claim confers federal question jurisdiction upon this Court.

Under Rule 15(a), courts are to apply the policy of free amendment of pleadings with extreme liberality. *DCD Programs, Ltd. v. Leighton*, 833 F.2d 183, 186 (9th Cir. 1987). When determining whether to grant leave to amend, a court should consider the following factors: (1) undue delay; (2) bad faith; (3) futility of amendment; and (4) prejudice to the opposing party. *See Eminence Capital, LLC v. Aspeon, Inc.*, 316 F.3d 1048, 1051 (9th Cir. 2003).

All of these factors weigh in favor of granting Plaintiff leave to amend. This case is in its early stages, as there has been no discovery or substantive motions. Because the Court has not issued any rulings, Plaintiff cannot be said to be forum shopping. Finally, with Plaintiff's voluntarily removing a claim, Defendants are presumably benefitted, rather than prejudiced. Accordingly, the Court **GRANTS** Plaintiff's motion for leave to amend. The first amended complaint attached to Plaintiff's motion is deemed filed as of the date of the entry of this order.

Having dismissed the Title VII claims, the only claims that remain are brought under state law. The Court declines to exercise supplemental jurisdiction over these claims. *See Carnegie-Mellon Univ. v. Cohill*, 484 U.S. 343, 350 n.7 (1988) ("In the usual case in which all federal-law claims are eliminated before trial, the balance of factors to be considered under the pendent jurisdiction doctrine -- judicial economy, convenience, fairness, and comity -- will point toward declining to exercise jurisdiction over the remaining state-law claims."). "The state court more frequently handles issues involving state anti-discrimination law" and thus would be in a better position to address state claims. *Hummel v. Smith*, No. C09-1268RSL, 2010 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 14052, at \*3 (W.D. Wash. Jan. 27, 2010). Accordingly, once the first amended complaint is filed, this action is **REMANDED** to the Superior Court of the State of California for the County of San Diego.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

DATED: September 16, 2011

Honorable Barry Ted Moskowitz United States District Judge

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